

Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

cc: Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commission Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker

April 21, 2011

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

*This letter came together when a group of over 75 students visited Washington, DC for a weeklong educational experience. The program brings students from around the country to learn about government policymaking and current events. This letter is the result of a seminar on the future of the Internet, the importance of broadband deployment, and the Universal Service Fund. After they learned about the issues, the students created the following comments urging the FCC to reform the Universal Service Fund in a way that will encourage broadband deployment while expanding LifeLine and LinkUp programs to provide Internet access for low income individuals. They have provided personal testimonies about the importance of Internet access for everyone.*

We urge the FCC to use the Universal Service Fund to expand broadband throughout the country. We believe Internet access is vital to communities and individuals for education and access to information, and that all people should have affordable service through the LifeLine and LinkUp programs.

The Internet is an extension of our freedom of speech and we have the right to seek knowledge as American citizens, the Internet is important in that process.  
*Alex, FL*

Access to the Internet allows us (students) to have updated information, more so than libraries, for our continuing pursuit of education and writing reports. *Victoria, MI*

The Internet is important because I live in the Bible belt and it allows me and other people to explore the world, beliefs, and information outside of our communities. *Thomas, LA*

The Internet gives a voice to minorities and communities that have not been covered by traditional media. *Monica, FL*

Catherine's family doesn't have television or cable because it could harm the health of her two autistic brothers. She relies on the Internet for her news and entertainment along with all of her educational needs. The Internet allows her to find anything she needs in an easy way. *Catherine, LA*

The Internet is important for connecting the whole world. Families in countries around the world can feel more connected through Facebook and VOIP programs. *Carla, FL*

Katherine, Miami, FL 33144  
Natalie, Miami Lakes, FL 33016  
Monica, Miami, FL 33143  
Jessica, Miami, FL 33184  
Malone, Miami, FL 33134  
Christy, Miami, FL 33178  
Colton, Clovis, NM 88101  
Zoe, Miami, FL 33145  
Kelly, Miami, FL 33173  
Bernie, Miami Springs, FL 33166  
Christina, Miami, FL 33182  
Yoliann, Miami, FL 33182  
Maria-Isabel, Miami, FL 33186  
Carolina, Miami, FL 33157  
Ana, Miami, FL 33156  
Vanessa, Miami, FL 33173  
Samantha, Clovis, NM 88101  
Taylor, Shreveport, LA 71107  
Caroline, Shreveport, LA 17705  
Courtnei, Clovis, NM 88101  
Destiny, Clovis, NM 88101  
Cristina, Miami, FL 33156  
Annette, Miami, FL 33186  
Ray, Clovis, NM 88101  
Andrea, Miami, FL 33176  
Monica, Miami, FL 33140  
Carla, Miami, FL 33172  
Celeste, Miami, FL 33173  
Katrin, Miami, FL 33156  
Anna, Miami, FL 33173  
Claudia, Miami, FL 33156  
Kelly, Miami, FL 33134  
Vicky, Miami, FL 33146  
Monika, Miami, FL 33143  
Shannon, Miami, FL 33143  
Stephanie, Miami, FL 33176

Amanda, Miami, FL 33175  
Michelle, Miami, FL 33156  
Allyson, Miami, FL 33156  
Ana, Miami, FL 33182  
Margaret, Shreveport, LA 71107  
Taygabbi, Shreveport, LA 71107  
Thomas, Shreveport, LA 71106  
Kendall, Shreveport, LA 71106  
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Mary, Smackover, AR 71762  
Casey, Smackover, AR 71762  
Warren, Smackover, AR 71762  
Cody, Smackover, AR 71762  
Melissa, Miami, FL 33172  
Mallory, Keithville, LA 71047  
Tylla, Shreveport, LA 71107  
Ashley, Miami, FL 33156  
Taylor, Shreveport, LA 71104  
Victoria, Miami, FL 33173  
Cristina, Miami, FL 33176  
Trey, Smackover, AR 71762  
Larma, Smackover, AR 71762  
Landon, Smackover, AR 71762  
Jordan, Smackover, AR 71762  
Catherine, Shreveport, LA 71115  
Amber, Miami, FL 33196  
Emmy, Shreveport, LA 71106  
Cali, Shreveport, LA 71106  
Mary Ann, Miami, FL 33183  
Victoria, Miami, FL 33134  
Gabriela Miami, FL 33155

*To reach the above students, please contact Rachel Colyer, Organizing and Communications Manager, at the Media and Democracy Coalition for additional information. [rcolyer@media-democracy.net](mailto:rcolyer@media-democracy.net).*